

**ASSEMBLY, No. 2274**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**220th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 7, 2022

**Sponsored by:**  
**Assemblywoman CAROL A. MURPHY**  
**District 7 (Burlington)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Establishes grant program for homeless veterans shelters.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1   **AN ACT** establishing the Southern New Jersey Homeless Veterans  
2       Shelter Grant Program and supplementing Title 38A of the New  
3       Jersey Statutes.

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5       **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6       *of New Jersey:*

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8       1. There is established in the Department of Military and  
9       Veterans' Affairs the "Southern New Jersey Homeless Veterans  
10      Shelter Grant Program." The purpose of this program is to award  
11      grants to the three southern-most counties in this State for identifying  
12      and providing appropriate locations and property for the State to  
13      develop and operate shelters for homeless veterans. The grants shall  
14      be awarded, subject to the availability of funds appropriated for the  
15      program, based upon the submission of applications by an eligible  
16      county in accordance with a process and criteria developed by the  
17      Adjutant General of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs  
18      and monies appropriated by the Legislature for this purpose. The  
19      application shall, at the minimum, include a description of the  
20      proposed location of a homeless veterans shelter and the property to be  
21      provided by the county to the State for development of a homeless  
22      veterans shelter. The Adjutant General may adopt, in accordance with  
23      the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-  
24      1 et seq.), rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the grant  
25      program.

26       As used in this section, the "three southern-most counties" means  
27      the counties of Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland.

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29       2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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## 32                                   STATEMENT

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34       This bill would require the Adjutant General of the Department of  
35      Military and Veterans' Affairs to award grants, subject to the  
36      availability of funds, to certain southern New Jersey counties to  
37      provide veterans with improved access to homeless shelters. Under  
38      the bill, Atlantic County, Cape May County, and Cumberland County  
39      may submit applications to the Adjutant General proposing locations  
40      for homeless veterans shelters and identifying property the county  
41      would provide to the State for the development of a shelter.

42       New Jersey's southern counties are in particular need of shelters  
43      for homeless veterans. Because of mobility issues, homeless veterans'  
44      access to resources is often limited by geographic location. Various  
45      factors may have caused homeless veterans to locate within southern  
46      New Jersey counties. However, when conditions, such as extreme  
47      cold, require them to seek out temporary shelter, they find themselves

**A2274 MURPHY**

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- 1 isolated from shelters and other facilities that provide resources for
- 2 veterans. This bill would result in the development of shelters in
- 3 locations appropriate to meet this need.